

Application No.: 09/588,351

Docket No.: 20136-00305-US

11. (Amended) In a circuit comprising a plurality of SOI devices, wherein each of the plurality of SOI devices has a body, a method for enhancing the performance of the circuit, the method comprising:

D² providing a pulse discharge circuit, the pulse discharge circuit having a pulse generator connected to the circuit;

using the pulse generator to generate a pulse;

discharging any accumulated potential on the body of at least one of the plurality of SOI devices to a point having a lower potential than the accumulated potential of the body in response to the pulse from the pulse generator prior to accessing said at least one SOI devices.

REMARKS

Claims 6-14 and 15 are pending in the application. Claim 15 is subject to a restriction requirement. Favorable reconsideration of the application is requested.

Withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102, as being anticipated by Assaderaghi et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,811,857), is requested. The rejected claims are directed to a method for enhancing the performance of an SOI circuit device. The claims, as exemplified by claim 6, are directed to a method which uses a pulse discharge circuit to discharge any accumulated potential on a body of an SOI device prior to accessing the device. In this way, by returning the body potential to a lower value, the switching speed for the device can be improved.

The claimed method provides that the discharge occur prior to accessing at least one SOI device. Thus, the timing between accessing an SOI device and discharging any accumulated potential on the body of an SOI device is controlled in a predetermined sequence set forth in all of the rejected claims (claims 9 and 11 have been amended to include this method limitation).